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Attorneys for the United States

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOSE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Anthony Don Tran  
Defendant.

CRIMINAL NO

1570305

NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS ON  
OUT-OF-DISTRICT CRIMINAL  
CHARGES PURSUANT TO RULES  
5(c)(2) AND (3) OF THE FEDERAL RULES  
OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

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Please take notice pursuant to Rules 5(c)(2) and (3) of the Federal Rules of Criminal  
Procedure that on 3/12/15, the above-named defendant was arrested based upon an  
arrest warrant (copy attached) issued upon an

☒ Indictment ☐ Information ☐ Criminal Complaint ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
pending in the Middle District of Georgia, Case Number 4:15cr11-cv1

In that case, the defendant is charged with a violation(s) of Title(s) 18 United States Code,  
Section(s) 371 + 201

Description of Charges: Conspiracy to Commit Bribery  
and Bribery of Public Official

Respectfully Submitted.

Melinda Haag  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Date: 3/12/15

Assistant U.S. Attorney

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
COLUMBUS DIVISION**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	)	<b>Criminal No.: 4:15-cr-11-CDL</b>
	)	
v.	)	<b>Count One: 18 U.S.C. § 371</b>
	)	<b>(Conspiracy to Commit Bribery)</b>
	)	
<b>ANTHONY DON TRAN</b>	)	<b>Count Two: 18 U.S.C. § 201</b>
	)	<b>(Bribery of a Public Official)</b>
	)	
	)	<b>and Criminal Forfeiture</b>
	)	
<b>Defendant.</b>	)	

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**INDICTMENT**

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:

1. Unless stated otherwise, the “relevant period” for purposes of this Indictment is from in or about October 2012 through in or about May 2013.

**COUNT ONE**

(18 U.S.C. § 371 – Conspiracy to Commit Bribery)

**INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED**

2. During the relevant period the defendant, ANTHONY DON TRAN, was deployed as a specialist with the United States Army 626th Brigade Support Battalion (“626 BSB”), out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky. 626 BSB was stationed at Forward Operating Base Gardez (“FOB Gardez”) in Gardez, Afghanistan. During his deployment, TRAN worked in the bulk fuel download yard at FOB Gardez. Among other responsibilities, TRAN was responsible for escorting fuel trucks to large fuel bladders in the download yard, downloading the fuel from the tanker into the bladder, and recording the total quantity of fuel downloaded.

3. Over the relevant period, Seneca Hampton was deployed as a sergeant with 626 BSB. Hampton was the noncommissioned officer in charge of the forward area refueling point at FOB Gardez. Hampton was responsible for maintaining accountability for all of the incoming and outgoing fuel at FOB Gardez each day.

4. Over the relevant period James Norris was a sergeant first class with 626 BSB. Norris was the platoon sergeant at FOB Gardez and was responsible for supervising the operations of the platoon, including the fuel operations.

5. Over the relevant period Public Official C was a specialist with 626 BSB and worked with TRAN in the area for bulk fuel downloads.

6. Over the relevant period local Afghan truck drivers frequently drove onto FOB Gardez to provide bulk fuel, sewage services, and to refuel generators and other equipment at the base.

7. Hampton's last known residence is Fort Benning, Georgia, within the Middle District of Georgia.

#### **FORWARD AREA REFUELING POINT**

8. The forward area refueling point at FOB Gardez was made up of three primary fuel areas: an area for bulk fuel downloads; an area for fuel dispersal for helicopters, generators, and base equipment; and a "MoGas" area that functioned as a retail or commercial filling station. The bulk fuel download yard was separated from the rest of the forward area refueling point by a mortar wall. TRAN and Public Official C primarily worked in the bulk fuel download yard. Hampton primarily worked in the area for fuel dispersal and in the MoGas area. Norris worked in a supervisory role and oversaw all three areas.

### **THE CONSPIRACY**

9. Between in or about December 2012 and in or about May 2013, in Afghanistan, the defendant, ANTHONY DON TRAN, did knowingly combine, conspire, confederate, and agree with Hampton, Norris, and Public Official C to commit an offense against the United States, to wit:

being public officials, directly and indirectly, to corruptly demand, seek, receive, accept, and agree to receive and accept anything of value personally and for any other person and entity, with the intent to be influenced in the performance of an official act and to be influenced to commit and aid in committing, and to collude in, and allow, a fraud, and make opportunity for the commission of a fraud, on the United States, and to be induced to do or omit to do any act in violation of their official duties; that is, TRAN, Hampton, Norris, and Public Official C solicited and received United States currency in exchange for permitting local Afghan National truck drivers to take fuel from FOB Gardez without authorization and to fail to download fuel designated for FOB Gardez, resulting in fuel losses to the United States government, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2)(A),(B), & (C).

### **THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSPIRACY**

10. It was a purpose of the conspiracy for TRAN, Hampton, Norris, and Public Official C to unjustly and unlawfully enrich themselves through corrupt means, namely, by accepting cash from local Afghan truck drivers in exchange for allowing the drivers to take fuel from FOB Gardez without authorization and to fail to download fuel designated for FOB Gardez.

### **THE MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY**

11. In furtherance of the conspiracy:

12. TRAN, Norris, Hampton, and Public Official C regularly solicited and accepted cash from Afghan truck drivers in exchange for allowing the drivers to take fuel from FOB Gardez.

13. TRAN manipulated fuel records to conceal the illicit dispersals.

14. Hampton falsely reported excess fuel as being dispersed for refueling generators and equipment on base, when in actuality the excess fuel was being provided illegitimately to local Afghan drivers for resale. Hampton falsely attributed the full increase in fuel usage to colder winter temperatures.

15. TRAN, Norris, Hampton, and Public Official C collected cash from drivers and mailed cash home in tough boxes so that they could access the money upon their return from deployment.

16. TRAN, Hampton, and Public Official C discussed the vehicles that they planned to purchase with the proceeds of the bribery scheme upon their return from deployment. When they did return to the United States TRAN purchased a 2010 Dodge Challenger as planned with \$19,000 cash; Hampton purchased a 2013 GMC Sierra as planned with \$29,000 cash; Norris purchased a 2008 Cadillac Escalade as planned with \$31,879 cash; and Public Official C purchased a 2010 Chevrolet Camaro as planned but financed the purchase of the vehicle.

#### **OVERT ACTS**

17. In furtherance of the conspiracy and to accomplish its unlawful objects, TRAN, Hampton, Norris, and Public Official C performed and caused to be performed the following overt acts, among others, in Afghanistan:

- a. Between in or about January 2013 and in or about May 2013 TRAN, Hampton, Norris, and Public Official C solicited and received, directly or indirectly, cash bribes from local Afghan truck drivers in exchange for allowing them to steal fuel that was either present at FOB Gardez or designated for FOB Gardez;

- b. On or about January 26, 2013, TRAN falsely reported that a fuel delivery truck downloaded approximately 13,000 gallons of fuel to FOB Gardez when in fact TRAN and Public Official C permitted the truck to leave FOB Gardez without downloading any of the fuel designated for FOB Gardez, in exchange for \$20,000.

**(All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371 and pursuant to the extraterritorial venue provision, Title 18, United States Code, Section 3238)**

**COUNT TWO**

**(18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2) – Bribery of a Public Official)**

18. Paragraphs 1-8 above are re-alleged and incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein.

19. From in or about January 2013 until in or about May 2013, in Afghanistan, the defendant, ANTHONY DON TRAN, being a public official, did directly and indirectly, corruptly demand, seek, receive, accept, and agree to receive and accept anything of value personally and for any other person and entity, with the intent to be influenced in the performance of an official act and to be influenced to commit and aid in committing, and to collude in, and allow, a fraud, and make opportunity for the commission of a fraud, on the United States, and to be induced to do or omit to do any act in violation of his official duties; that is, TRAN solicited and received money, in exchange for permitting local Afghan National truck drivers to take fuel from FOB Gardez without authorization and to fail to download fuel designated for FOB Gardez, resulting in fuel losses to the United States government.

**(All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2)(A),(B), & (C) and pursuant to the extraterritorial venue provision, Title 18, United States Code, Section 3238)**

**NOTICE AS TO CRIMINAL FORFEITURE**

(18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C); 28 U.S.C. § 2461 – Criminal Forfeiture)

20. The allegations contained in Counts 1 and 2 of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeitures pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and 26 U.S.C. § 2641.

21. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), the defendant, ANTHONY DON TRAN, once convicted of Counts One and Two (conspiracy to commit bribery, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, and bribery of a public official, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2)) shall forfeit to the United States any property real or personal constituting or derived from proceeds traceable to such violation, including but not limited to a forfeiture money judgment in the amount of \$10,000 and a 2010 Dodge Challenger bearing VIN No. 2B3CJ4DV7AH265276.

22. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided

without difficulty,

the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), as incorporated by Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c).

A TRUE BILL.

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FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

Presented by:

RAYMOND HULSER  
Acting Chief, Public Integrity Section

MICHAEL J. MOORE  
United States Attorney  
Middle District of Georgia



JOHN KELLER

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United States Department of Justice  
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Filed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015

  
Clerk



AO 442 (Rev. 11/11) Arrest Warrant

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Middle District of Georgia

United States of America

v.

Case No. 4:15-CR-00011-001-CDL

ANTHONY DON TRAN

*Defendant*

## ARREST WARRANT

To: Any authorized law enforcement officer

**YOU ARE COMMANDED** to arrest and bring before a United States magistrate judge without unnecessary delay(name of person to be arrested) ANTHONY DON TRAN,

who is accused of an offense or violation based on the following document filed with the court:

- ☒ Indictment   
 ☐ Superseding Indictment   
 ☐ Information   
 ☐ Superseding Information   
 ☐ Complaint  
☐ Probation Violation Petition   
☐ Supervised Release Violation Petition   
☐ Violation Notice   
☐ Order of the Court

This offense is briefly described as follows:

Conspiracy to Commit Bribery; Bribery of a Public Official

Date: 03/10/2015s/C.A. Lunsford, Deputy Clerk*Issuing officer's signature*City and state: Macon, GAC.A. Lunsford, Deputy Clerk*Printed name and title*

## Return

 This warrant was received on (date) \_\_\_\_\_, and the person was arrested on (date) \_\_\_\_\_  
 at (city and state) \_\_\_\_\_.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Arresting officer's signature**Printed name and title*